

Senate Study Bill 1040 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION BILL)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the use of blue and white lighting devices
2 and reflectors during snow and ice treatment and removal,
3 making penalties applicable, and including sunset date
4 provisions.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.323A, subsection 2, unnumbered
2 paragraph 1, Code 2015, is amended to read as follows:

3 The operator of a motor vehicle approaching a stationary
4 towing or recovery vehicle, a stationary utility maintenance
5 vehicle, a stationary municipal maintenance vehicle, or a
6 stationary highway maintenance vehicle, that is displaying
7 flashing yellow, amber, blue, white, or red lights, shall
8 approach the vehicle with due caution and shall proceed in one
9 of the following manners, absent any other direction by a peace
10 officer:

11 Sec. 2. Section 321.393, Code 2015, is amended by adding the
12 following new subsection:

13 NEW SUBSECTION. 5. *a.* The provisions of this section
14 shall not prohibit the use of a lighting device or reflector
15 displaying an amber, white, or blue light when the lighting
16 device or reflector is rear-facing and mounted on a motor
17 truck, trailer, tractor, truck-mounted snow blower, or motor
18 grader owned by the department while the equipment is being
19 used for snow and ice treatment or removal on the public
20 streets or highways.

21 *b.* This subsection is repealed on July 1, 2019.

22 Sec. 3. Section 321.423, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code
23 2015, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

24 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (4) (a) A motor truck, trailer,
25 tractor, truck-mounted snow blower, or motor grader owned by
26 the department if the blue light is rear-facing and used in
27 conjunction with amber and white lighting devices or reflectors
28 while the equipment is being used for snow and ice treatment or
29 removal on the public streets or highways.

30 (b) This subparagraph (4) is repealed on July 1, 2019.

31 Sec. 4. Section 321.423, subsection 7, paragraph a, Code
32 2015, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

33 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (4) (a) On a motor truck, trailer,
34 tractor, truck-mounted snow blower, or motor grader owned by
35 the department if the white light is rear-facing and used in

1 conjunction with amber and blue lighting devices or reflectors
2 while the equipment is being used for snow and ice treatment or
3 removal on the public streets or highways.

4 (b) This subparagraph (4) is repealed on July 1, 2019.

5

EXPLANATION

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The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
7 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

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8 Iowa's current "move over" law provides that the operator
9 of a motor vehicle must approach certain vehicles displaying
10 yellow, amber, or red lights with due caution and must either
11 move into a nonadjacent lane or slow down and be prepared to
12 stop if changing lanes is impossible, illegal, or unsafe. The
13 bill expands that provision to include vehicles displaying blue
14 or white lights. A violation is a simple misdemeanor and is
15 punishable with a scheduled fine of \$100.

16 The bill provides for the use of blue and white lights in
17 conjunction with amber lighting devices or reflectors while
18 a motor truck, trailer, tractor, truck-mounted snow blower,
19 or motor grader owned by the department of transportation is
20 being used for snow and ice treatment or removal on the public
21 streets or highways. These provisions are repealed on July 1,
22 2019.